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Dorgan announces keynote speaker:

TIPPER GORE TO SPEAK AT WOMEN'S HEALTH CONFERENCE IN FARGO ON FEBRUARY 25

(WASHINGTON, D.C.) --- U.S. Senator Byron Dorgan announced Friday that Tipper Gore, wife of Vice President Al Gore, will be the keynote speaker at *Women's Health~Women's Lives 2000*, a regional women's health conference Dorgan will sponsor Friday, February 25 in Fargo at the Ramada Plaza Suites. She is scheduled to speak on "Fighting the Stigma of Mental Illness" during the conference's Lunch Program which begins at 11:30 a.m.

Mrs. Gore, a longtime advocate of healthy living and healthy lives for women and children, will talk about the need for quality, affordable mental health care, and overcoming the stigma associated with mental illness. As Mental Health Policy Advisor to the President, Mrs. Gore worked closely with the Administration to host the first ever White House Conference on Mental Health, and to ensure mental health services were included in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

"Tipper Gore has worked tirelessly to raise awareness of important health issues including youth physical fitness, Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, lead poisoning and mental health," Dorgan said. "I'm pleased she will join us at this regional women's health event to speak of her advocacy work, particularly as it relates to the health and well-being of women and children."

The third annual *Women's Health~Women's Lives* will be held from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at the Ramada Plaza Suites, 1635 42nd Street SW in Fargo. Cost to attend the all-day conference is \$10, which includes lunch. Area residents can register on-line at www.whwl.org or by phone at 1-888-791-6350 in North Dakota or 701-667-4308 outside of North Dakota.

Mrs. Gore will join an already impressive lineup of interesting workshop topics and featured speakers, including **Kristine Lilly**, one of the star players on the U.S. Women's World Cup Champion Soccer Team; and **Donna J. Dean Ph.D.**, a top women's health expert from the National Institutes of Health. **Robin Huebner** of KVLV-TV 11 in Fargo will serve as the event's emcee.

Dorgan said *Women's Health~Women's Lives 2000* will also include a series of in-depth workshops on such topics as breast cancer, heart disease, herbal and dietary supplements, financial planning, effective parenting, and quick and healthy cooking.

"This is an excellent opportunity for area women to ask questions directly of top health care professionals and learn about the newest research and breakthroughs on women's health issues," Dorgan said. "The conference is open to everyone, but I especially encourage mothers, daughters and their families from across the multi-state region to attend this important educational event."

Women's Health~Women's Lives 2000 is cosponsored by American Home Products Corporation, Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Dakota, Bristol-Myers Squibb Company, Dakota Clinic/Innovis Health, KVLV-TV, Mental Health Association in North Dakota, Scheels All Sports, Target Corporation, U.S. Bank, and the U.S. Departments of Health & Human Services and Labor, Women's Bureau.

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Editor's Note: A color digital photo of Mrs. Gore is available upon request.